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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/033,112	01/02/2002	Stephan Jourdan	2207/12005	7684
23838	7590	02/13/2004	EXAMINER	
KENYON & KENYON 1500 K STREET, N.W., SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20005			LANE, JOHN A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2188	

DATE MAILED: 02/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/033,112

Applicant(s)

JOURDAN, STEPHAN

Examiner

Jack A Lane

Art Unit

2188

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-28 are presented for examination.
2. The examiner requests, in response to this Office action, any reference(s) known to qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. sections 102 or 103 with respect to the instant claims. That is, any prior art similar to the instant claimed invention that could reasonably be used in a 102/103 rejection. This request does not require applicant to perform a search. This request is not intended to interfere with or go beyond that required under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 or 1.105. This request may be fulfilled simply by asking the attorney(s) of record handling prosecution and the inventor(s)/assignee for references qualifying as prior art. A simple statement that the query has been made and no prior art found is sufficient to fulfill the request. Otherwise, along with a 102/103 submission a discussion of why the reference(s) qualifies as prior art with respect to the instant claims is requested. **A response to this inquiry is greatly appreciated.**

The examiner also requests, in response to this Office action, support be shown for language added to the claims on amendment. That is, indicate support for newly added claim language by specifically pointing to page(s) and line no(s). in the specification and/or drawing figure(s). This will assist the examiner in prosecuting the application.

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Shiell et al. (Pat. No. 6,119,222).

Shiell teaches the claimed step of "receiving a request for an instruction" as the request generated by fetch unit 26 shown in figure 1. The claimed step of "searching a cache system at a first level of the instruction" corresponds to searching level 1 instruction cache 16. The claimed step of "searching...a second level...in parallel with the first level...based on a prediction" corresponds to prefetching an instruction from the second level 2 cache 11 simultaneously with the fetch of the instruction from level 1 cache as discussed at column 6, lines 45-48. The prefetched information from the second level cache corresponds to **expected** cache misses (col. 6, line 51). The examiner contends an expected cache miss is a predicted cache miss. Information on bus UPD from grad queue and tag ck 27 includes information (e.g. addresses) for instruction that

involve serious cache misses (col. 7, lines 2-6). The claimed "parameter value" corresponds to the values in prefetch counters T0 CTR, T1 CTR, N0 CTR and N1 CTR (col. 13, lines 12-16). If the counters are zero (zero is the predetermined threshold) the prefetch to second level cache 2 (or above) is ignored as the sought-for contents are most likely already in lower level cache (i.e. level 1 instruction cache 16). If the counters are above zero the prefetch of second level cache 11 is permitted.

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 2-13, 15-19, 21-23, 25, 27 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiell et al. (Pat. No. 6,119,222).

The examiner believes most, if-not-all, claim features are taught by Shiell et al. However, in the event a claim feature(s) is not inherent applicant should consider the claim feature(s) in light of the Official notification put forth below.

Official notice is taken of the prior art teaching any claim feature not specifically discussed above. That is, any prior art (including that of record) teaching the more well known claim features commonly found in the dependent claims. The claim features, while part of the invention, appear to be well known and their relevance not essential to the main invention found in the independent claim(s). Thus, a detailed discussion of the well known claim features is not warranted at this time. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shiell with the officially taken prior art given the state of the art at the time the well known claim features were invented.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director
of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306, (for Official communications intended for entry)

Or:

(703) 872-9306, (for Non-Official or draft communications, please
label "Non-Official" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121
Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

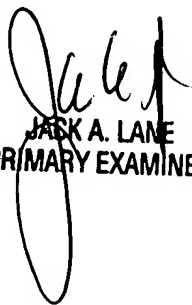
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jack A. Lane whose telephone number is 703 305-3818. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 7:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mano Padmanabhan can be reached on 703 306-2903.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 305-3900.


JACK A. LANE
PRIMARY EXAMINER